

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 16 in its entirety.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26, as follows:

~~Thus, even if the malfunction information is determined in view of the malfunction level of the diagnosis target, the control operation of the MIL varies depending on the type of the diagnosis object. Thus, the logic for executing the adjustment (II) of the result of each malfunction judgment may be complicated.~~

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 3, as follows:

Next, at S310, reference is made to the relationship information. Then, at S320, the control instruction corresponding to the malfunction information retrieved at S300 is specified. For example, since the malfunction information of the first malfunction-information storing object 310 shown in FIG. 5 is “temporarily abnormal”, the first malfunction-information storing object 310 specifies “lighting-off” as the control instruction by referring to the relationship information. As another example, if the malfunction information of the second malfunction-information storing object 320 shown in FIG. 5 is “temporarily abnormal”, the second malfunction-information storing object 320 specifies “lighting on” as the control instruction by referring to the relationship information. The example embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 thus addresses the disadvantages discussed above in section (1) by providing the following desirable operation: Even if the malfunction information is the same, that is, the level of the malfunction is the same, the MIL control operation may vary from one diagnosis target to

MAKI et al.

Application No. 09/982,988

April 17, 2006

another diagnosis target. That is, for example, if the diagnosis target is the important one and is determined to be temporarily abnormal, the MIL should be lighted on or flashed immediately. On the other hand, if the diagnosis target is not the important one and is determined to be temporarily abnormal, the MIL may not be lighted on or flashed immediately until the diagnosis target becomes completely abnormal. Thus, even if the malfunction information is determined in view of the malfunction level of the diagnosis target, the control operation of the MIL varies depending on the type of the diagnosis object.